

WAYNE, PA—On Sunday, April 19, 2009, Congressman Joe Sestak (PA-07) addressed more than 400 Cadets, faculty, and staff of the Valley Forge Military Academy & College at the Sunday Worship Service. The Congressman was joined by President Charles A. McGeorge and his wife, Joy, and Superintendent Jim Doyle and his wife, Elaine.

“In the Naval Academy, I learned that the principles that define you are the ones you stand up for, the ones you hold fast to when no one is looking,” said Congressman Sestak.

“At sea we learned to make instantaneous decisions to save a ship or avoid a collision—but the ability to make those decisions and make them correctly depends as much on your training as it does from the confidence that comes from having the courage of your convictions. If you have the faith and principles that form the template for your experiences and training, you can react at a moment’s notice—and you can be capable and comfortable making those tough decisions.”

More than two hundred years ago at Valley Forge, General Washington led young men of courage and honor to change America forever. Today, America’s leaders still come from Valley Forge. Focused on educating the whole person, Valley Forge Military Academy & College is a foundation of support, encouragement, and guidance to young people. Cadets leave Valley Forge with a sense of accomplishment and a confidence that stays with them forever.

Since 1928, Valley Forge has been committed to a character-based education built on the foundation of the “five cornerstones” —academic excellence, character development, personal motivation, physical development and leadership.

*Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of “Deep Blue,” the Navy’s anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the “Global War on Terrorism.” He served as President Clinton’s Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the U.S. Congress.*

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